

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL MEMORANDUM

HB 525 - SB 924

April 12, 2021

SUMMARY OF ORIGINAL BILL: Requires the Commissioner of the Department of Education (DOE) to notify each local education agency (LEA) when the Office of Research and Education Accountability (OREA) publishes a report relative to kindergarten through 12 (K-12) education, for dissemination to all the LEA's licensed personnel.

FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENTS (005481, 006826, 006877): Amendment 005481 deletes all language after the enacting clause and rewrites the bill. Authorizes the Commissioner of DOE to issue an endorsement exemption or temporary permit to teach any course or subject area, except for special education courses for the 2021-22 school year, upon the request of a director of schools or public charter school, if the director can certify to the Commissioner of the Department of Education (DOE) that the LEA or public charter school is unable to secure a qualified teacher for the subject area. Establishes that an exemption or temporary permit is only valid for the 2021-22 school year.

Amendment 006826 adds language to Amendment 005481 to establish that the governing body for an LEA, public charter school, or private school has the sole authority to set mask and social distancing policies for their respective schools for the 2021-2022 school year.

Amendment 006877 deletes and replaces language in Amendment 005481 to prohibit a county LEA from operating a school located within the geographic boundaries of a municipal LEA without an interlocal agreement or memorandum of understanding between the two LEAs, beginning July 1, 2022. Establishes certain requirements for municipal school systems and county LEAs which operate within the same geographic boundaries.

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENTS:

Unchanged from the original fiscal note.

Assumptions for the bill as amended:

- Authorizing the issuance of exemptions and temporary permits for the 2021-22 school year will not affect processes or procedures for DOE and can be accomplished within existing resources. Any fiscal impact is estimated to be not significant.
- Establishing the authority to set mask and social distancing policies for schools will not affect the operations of a governing body for an LEA, public charter school, or private school. Any fiscal impact is estimated to be not significant.
- The proposed legislation may result in a shift of enrollment between municipal school systems and LEAs or between two LEAs.
- Any enrollment shift will impact the local school systems' average daily membership (ADM) and Basic Education Program (BEP) funding.
- While funding received by each individual school system may change, the total amount of BEP funding will remain the same; therefore, any impact to state expenditures is considered not significant.
- The net fiscal impact to local government statewide is considered not significant.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Krista Lee Carsner". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

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